



Attorney's Docket No.: 14503-003001 / F62554US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Elmar Kraus et al.

Art Unit : 1723

Serial No. : 10/797,514

Examiner : Krishnan S. Menon

Filed : March 10, 2004

Title : USE OF RECOMBINANT ALBUMIN IN DIALYSIS AFTER LIVER FAILURE

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the action mailed March 9, 2006, Applicants elect the invention of Group I. Applicants also submit herewith a Preliminary Amendment. For consistency with U.S. patent practice, claim 1 is amended to recite a "method for dialysis" rather than the "use of recombinant HSA in dialysis." Claims 2-18 are amended for consistency with claim 1. Similarly, claim 53 is amended to recite a "method for treatment of liver failure" rather than the "use of recombinant HSA in preparation of a medicament for the treatment of liver failure." Also included in the Preliminary Amendment are new claims 54-59. Claims 54-56 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, while claims 57-59 depend directly or indirectly from claim 53. Thus, Applicants' election of Group I reads on claims 1-18 and 53-59.

The election is made with traverse. Applicants submit that there would be no undue search burden to examine both the elected claims of Group I and the claims of Group V, drawn to a method for separation of protein-bound substances (claims 41-52). Thus, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of Group V with Group I. If the Examiner agrees to the request for rejoinder, Applicants further elect the species of claim 41 without traverse.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 7, 2006

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